



Advisory Board Meeting June 2023



Steve Hollis (Chair) began the meeting by highlighting some of the great work of individual Board members over the last three months, including **Marc Stone** and **Rebecca Warren** for hosting the AMBA panel at dinner during our reaccreditation. Steve also thanked them both for their guest lectures on the MBA programme and the outstanding work Marc does in advising both Deloitte and the Business School on the design and delivery of the School's unique and exclusive [Birmingham MBA Deloitte Consultancy Challenge](#). Steve complimented **Billie Major** on the same for championing the [Cappgemini Community Challenge](#). **Anji Hunter** was thanked for coming up to Birmingham once again to speak on the MBA programme, now a regular fixture, and **Andraea Dawson-Shepherd** fed back on her work on the Board of the School's Responsible Business Centre. Finally, Steve welcomed **Dujon Smith** to his second meeting since joining the Board last November and asked him to update the Board on the support he's been giving the School's Decolonising the Curriculum project, and the talk he gave on this at the School whilst over from the States this week.

The Board went on to discuss key marketing challenges and the future of the Responsible Business Centre, before spending time deep diving the design of the new MBA Curriculum and advising on key aspects to achieve distinction in the marketplace and how to meet current labour market requirements and skills gaps.

The meeting ended with a sad farewell to our Chair **Steve Hollis**. Steve chaired his first meeting of the Advisory Board in July 2018. During his time as Chair the Business School has enjoyed huge success in our research grants, the REF, accreditation, and experienced considerable growth, and the board itself was singled out as an example of best practice by the [EFMD Global Focus magazine](#). Steve has been of particular support to **Professor Cathy Cassell**, the Dean throughout most of this period, meeting with her regularly, and championing the Business School's work on University Council, where he now sits as Deputy Pro-Chancellor. In his closing statement, he announced **Billie Major** as his successor:

*"The Business School is a very important part of the University and the Advisory Board is a key part of the Business School. Whilst it has no executive responsibilities, it is an increasing source of influence and wise counsel that I know the Dean and senior colleagues find invaluable. I am sad to be giving up the Chair but so proud to be leaving it in the excellent hands of **Billie Major** in which it will go from strength to strength."*

*On a personal note, I will be continuing with my University Council responsibilities and if I can ever help in any way please just call. I must also add that as you will know behind every good Chairman there is someone who makes everything work – I cannot thank **Andrew Miles** enough for all his help, support and guidance in my time as Chair of the Advisory Board. My thanks to all the members of this truly stimulating and collegiate Board. And, as I always say, "upwards and onwards."*

The Business School would like to thank Steve for all his commitment, challenge and good humour in his time as Chair, and to welcome Billie, one of the Business School staunchest advocates, into the role.